

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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State Parks Invites Proposals on 20-year Contract at Columbia SHP

SACRAMENTO – On Wednesday, California State Parks will offer the opportunity to submit a proposal for a 20-year contract to develop, operate and maintain the City and Fallon Hotel complexes in Columbia State Historic Park.

The contract will be to operate two hotels, two restaurants, a saloon, an ice cream parlor and a theater in accordance with the appropriate historic period of 1850-1870.

The park, located in Tuolumne County, is significant for being the best-preserved historic Mother Lode town in California. It is listed as a National Historic Landmark, the highest federal designation in the United States, and includes exceptional heritage resources worthy of protection and preservation.

Highlights of the proposed contract include a minimum facility development and restoration investment of \$250,000 and the greater of a minimum annual rent of \$25,000 or 2.5 percent of the first \$1 million in gross receipts and 3 percent over \$1 million. The activities, goods and services provided will enhance the visitor's experience and understanding of Columbia during and after the California Gold Rush.

The deadline for proposal submission is April 16, 2009, at 2 p.m.

There will be an optional pre-proposal meeting on Wednesday, February 4, at 11 a.m. at the Eagle Cotage at 11195 Washington Street, Columbia, CA. The meeting will include a review of the Request for Proposals (RFP) process and materials, as well as a tour of the facilities. Potential proposers may contact Cathryn Milner, District Concession Specialist, at (209) 536-2917 regarding meeting attendance.

The current concession operator reported more than \$1 million in gross sales during fiscal year 2007/2008. The new RFP is being pursued in compliance with state law that requires a competitive bid process open to all parties for concession operations.

Interested parties are encouraged to download a complimentary copy of the RFP at <http://www.parks.ca.gov/concessions>. Hard copies of the RFP may be purchased for \$25 by contacting District Concession Specialist Cathryn Milner at (209) 536-2917 or cmiln@parks.ca.gov.

To learn more, contact Milner or Concessions Program Manager Teresa Montijo, at (916) 653-7733.

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California State Parks welcomes all visitors.

For those with special needs, please contact us in advance to arrange accommodations.